

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A filter system having at least two filter elements for use in an outdoor electronic equipment enclosure having an inlet for intaking ambient air into the enclosure and an outlet for outputting air from the enclosure, the filter system comprising:

an air flow path formed through said enclosure from said inlet to said outlet;

a first HEPA filter element mounted to said enclosure such that air in said air flow path moves through said first filter element; and

a second water vapor filter element mounted to said enclosure downstream of said first filter element such that air in said flow path passing through said first filter element thereafter passes through said second filter element, said first filter element protecting and extending the useful life of said second filter element.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
said first filter element is cleanable.

5. (original) The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
said first filter element is positioned for easier access than said second filter element.

6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)
10. (original) The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
said second filter element is a PTFE filter element.
11. (canceled)
12. (canceled)
13. (canceled)
14. (canceled)
15. (canceled)
16. (canceled)
17. (canceled)
18. (original) The system as claimed in claim 1 including:
a sensor for indicating that said first filter element should be cleaned or replaced.
19. (original) The system as claimed in claim 1 including:
a sensor mounted to said housing for monitoring air flow resistance along said air flow path and for providing a signal indicating a predetermined resistance to air flow along said air flow path; and
a control mounted to said housing and responsive to said signal for altering the operation of a fan creating said air flow.
20. (original) The system as claimed in claim 19 wherein:

said control causes said fan to increase rotational velocity to attempt clearing any clogging of said filter elements.

21. (original) The system as claimed in claim 20 wherein:

said control causes said fan to reverse rotational direction.

22. (original) The system as claimed in claim 21 wherein:

said control causes said fan to increase rotational velocity before reversing rotational direction.

23. (original) The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein:

said control cycles said fan between increasing rotational velocity and reversing rotational direction.

24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23 wherein:

said first filter element is positioned for easier access than said second filter element.

26. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23 wherein:

said first filter element is cleanable.

27. (currently amended) An outdoor electronic equipment enclosure comprising:

an inlet for intaking ambient air into the enclosure;

a HEPA filter for filtering particulate matter from air; and

a water vapor filter positioned downstream of the HEPA filter such that air passing through the HEPA filter subsequently passes through the water vapor filter for removing water vapor from the air.

28. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 27 wherein the water vapor filter comprises PTFE.

29. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 27 wherein the HEPA filter is substantially incapable of filtering water vapor.

30. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 27 further comprising a fan for forcing air through the HEPA filter and the water vapor filter.

31. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 30 further comprising a control for said fan.

32. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 31 wherein the control is configured to selectively increase a rotational velocity of the fan in an effort to clear at least one of the HEPA filter and the water vapor filter.

33. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 31 wherein the control is configured to selectively reverse a rotational direction of the fan in an effort to clear at least one of the HEPA filter and the water vapor filter.

34. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 33 wherein the control is configured to increase a rotational velocity of the fan in an effort to clear at least one of the HEPA filter and the water vapor filter before reversing the rotational direction of the fan in an effort to clear at least one of the HEPA filter and the water vapor filter.

35. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 34 wherein the control is configured to cycle between increasing the rotational velocity of the fan and reversing the rotational direction of the fan.

36. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 27 wherein the HEPA filter can be removed and replaced independently of the water vapor filter.

37. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 27 wherein the HEPA filter is cleanable.

38. (previously presented) The enclosure of claim 27 wherein the HEPA filter is positioned for easier access than the water vapor filter.

39. (canceled).